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POL 23-9 LIBYA E/40

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

EXCISE

Benghazi 734 9-4-69

CONFIDENTIAL 105

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 12 JUL 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01,CIAE 00,DODE 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,
P 03,RSC 01,PRS 01,SS 20,USIA 12,NEA 13,E 15,UCF 05,IO 13,O 02,
SY 03,OPR 02,OC 06,CCO 00,RSR 01,AID 28,PC 04,/174 W
111396

R 061148Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 246

C O N F I D E N T I A L BENGHAZI 734

BENGHAZI SITREP - SEPT 8.

1. ON SEPTEMBER 8, THE TENSION WHICH HAS GRIPPED BENGHAZI FOR A WEEK EXPLODED IN SEVERAL NASTY INCIDENTS.

2. AT ABOUT NOON, A DISPUTE OCCURRED IN A HIGH PRICED GROCERY STORE RUN BY GREEKS. ACCORDING TO SEVERAL REPORTS, THE SOLDIER ON GUARD ACCUSED THE PROPRIETER OF CHEATING AND TOLD THE CUSTOMERS TO GO AHEAD AND TAKE WHAT THEY WANTED. AS THE LOOTING BEGAN, THE SOLDIER TURNED HIS GUN ON A ROW OF BOTTLES ACT DEMOLISHED THEM WITH A BURST OF FIRE. IT TOOK HALF AN HOUR TO CALM THINGS DOWN AND SILENCE OTHER SOLDIERS WHO VWEREFIRING IN THE AIR.

3. AT ABOUT SIX PM, A FUSILLAGE OF SMALL ARMS FIRE BROKE OUT ALL OVER BENGHAZI AND RUMORS SWEPT THE TOWN THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN ATTACK ON RCC HQ AT THE RADIO STATION. [redacted] B1EB

4. AT SOME TIME DURING PAST THREE DAYS, A LIBYAN ARMY OFFICER AND TWO SOLDIERS WERE SHOT BY A CYDEF OFFICER WHO ESCAPED.

5. CYDEF OFFICERS WHO WERE UNDER DETENTION IN GRAND HOTEL WERE REMOVED MORNING SEPTEMBER 9. HOTEL IS NOW BACK TO NORMAL OPERATIONS.

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6. DESPITE OCCASIONAL SURFACE CALM, BENGHAZI IS NOT BACK TO NORMAL.
BLAKE

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